(d) if so, how many complaints have been received in this regard and the steps being taken to remove this anomaly in the interest of BSNL subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) In order to ensure that march of technology is not misused or abused by subscribers or service providers, it was clarified that the terminal used for fixed wireless services should be strictly confined to the premises of the subscriber where the telephone connection is registered and wherever such restriction cannot be imposed, it is to be treated as Limited Mobile feature for all purposes which *inter-alia* includes Numbering Plan, Interconnection Usage Charges etc.

(c) and (d) Two representations were received in this regard. BSNL has informed that the tariff, for the calls terminated in self network and for calls terminated in the network of other service providers, is under forbearance as per directives/Telecom Tariff Orders of TRAI. Further, it has been reported that other operators are also offering different tariffs for own network and the network of other service providers for same type of services and to o*fer differential tariff to intra-network calls and inter-network calls is within the ambit of present regulatory directives.

Subsidized telephone rates

165. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that mobile subscriber base is growing by roughly 5-8 per cent every month as compared to subscriber base of BSNL.

(b) whether it is also a fact that inspite of stagnant subscriber base of BSNL, Government have not considered the interest of 60 million mobile subscribers by subsidizing telephony cost; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard in the interest of 60 million mobile subscribers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The

growth rate of All India Mobile Subscriber Base has ranged from 3 to 4.6 per cent in the current financial year as compared with the growth rate of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL), which is 2 to 5.3 per cent.

(b) The growth of mobile subscriber base of BSNL is given below, which clearly indicate that mobile subscriber base of BSNL is not stagnant.

SI. No.	Subscriber connections as on	Total Cellular Subscriber Connections
1.	31.03.2003	22,56,288
2.	31.03.2004	52,54,117
3.	31.03.2005	94,47.357
4.	30.04.2005	97,11,236
5.	31.05.2005	99,07,046
6.	30.06.2005	1,02,51,184
7.	31.07.2005	1,07,66,698
8.	31.08.2005	1,13,47,445
9.	30.09.2005	1.19,00,334
10.	31.10.2005	1,25,12,973

The Government has not considered any subsidy to the mobile subscribers as tariffs for Cellular Mobile Telephones Service are not regulated.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

Competitive bid for NLD business

166. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to constitute Competition Commission which will look into the economic development by preventing anticompetitive practices, protect customers interest and ensure freedom of trade;